

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Bullfoot Creek Bridge

and/or common Bullfoot Creek Bridge

2. Location

street & number Four miles south and .9 miles east of Vesper n/a not for publication

city, town Vesper ☒ vicinity of

state Kansas code 20 county Lincoln code 105

3. Classification

| Category | Ownership | Status | Present Use |
|---|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> district | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture |
| <input type="checkbox"/> building(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> private | <input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied | <input type="checkbox"/> commercial |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> structure | <input type="checkbox"/> both | <input type="checkbox"/> work in progress | <input type="checkbox"/> educational |
| <input type="checkbox"/> site | Public Acquisition | Accessible | <input type="checkbox"/> entertainment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> object | <input type="checkbox"/> in process | <input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted | <input type="checkbox"/> government |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> being considered | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted | <input type="checkbox"/> industrial |
| | n/a | <input type="checkbox"/> no | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> transportation |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> other: |

4. Owner of Property

name Lincoln County

street & number Lincoln County Courthouse

city, town Lincoln ☐ vicinity of state Kansas

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Register of Deeds

street & number Lincoln County Courthouse

city, town Lincoln state Kansas

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Survey of Historic Bridges--
Kansas Dept. of Transportation has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☒ nodate 1980-83 ☐ federal ☒ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records Kansas State Historical Society

city, town Topeka state Kansas

7. Description

Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☒ unaltered
☐ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Bullfoot Creek Tributary bridge is 33 feet long and 25 feet wide curb to curb. The roadway lies 17.5 feet above the water level.

The stone arch springs from and is disposed between stone abutments. Stone spandrel walls project above the elliptical arch to form a guard railing as well as retain the earthen fill which loads the arch. This fill allows for even distribution of the live loads and helps to strengthen the arch. Stone wing walls project from each approach.

The voussoirs, spandrel walls, abutments and wing walls are made from local post rock limestone. The railing or balustrade is open at intervals along its length. A large dressed keystone is located at the crown of each set of ring stones.

8. Significance

| Period | Areas of Significance—Check and justify below | | | |
|---|---|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> community planning | <input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> religion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499 | <input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic | <input type="checkbox"/> conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> law | <input type="checkbox"/> science |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599 | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> economics | <input type="checkbox"/> literature | <input type="checkbox"/> sculpture |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699 | <input type="checkbox"/> architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> education | <input type="checkbox"/> military | <input type="checkbox"/> social/ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> art | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> music | <input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement | <input type="checkbox"/> philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> theater |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900- | <input type="checkbox"/> communications | <input type="checkbox"/> industry | <input type="checkbox"/> politics/government | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> transportation |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> invention | | <input type="checkbox"/> other (specify) |

Specific dates [1930]

Builder/Architect Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Bullfoot Creek Tributary bridge retains its integrity of location, design, setting, materials, feeling and association. It embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type and method of construction no longer being used namely the construction of a roadway supported by a stone arch which is loaded by an earthen fill which, in turn, is retained by stone spandrel walls. This bridge may yield information important to the history of engineering.

The stone arch bridge was popular in Kansas because the stone and construction expertise was locally available. In this instance it was post rock limestone.

Research has failed to reveal any construction details about the bridge but its refined style reflects the design of the third decade of the 20th century.

The decorative dado of the balustrades is unique in Kansas stone arch bridges.

THIS STATEMENT REFLECTS CURRENT KNOWLEDGE AND IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Charles S. Whitney, Bridges: Their Art, Science, and Evolution, New York: Greenwich House, 1983.

Henry G. Tyrrell, Artistic Bridge Design, Chicago: Myron C. Clark Publishing Co., N.d.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property Less than one acre

Quadrangle name Wilson NE, Kansas

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

A

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|------|---|---|---------|---|---|---|----------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 4 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 9 | 0 | 0 |
| Zone | | | Easting | | | | Northing | | | | | | | |

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Verbal boundary description and justification

That property on and over which the bridge is built including bridge structure and abutments. SW $\frac{1}{4}$, S30 - T12S - R8W

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

| state | n/a | code | county | code |
|-------|-----|------|--------|------|
|-------|-----|------|--------|------|

| state | code | county | code |
|-------|------|--------|------|
|-------|------|--------|------|

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Larry Jochims, Research Historian and Michael Snell

organization Kansas State Historical Society

date 2/20/85

street & number 120 West 10th

telephone (913) 296-2973

city or town Topeka

state Kansas

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

☐ national ☒ state ☐ local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title Executive Director, Kansas State Historical Society

date 3/4/85

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

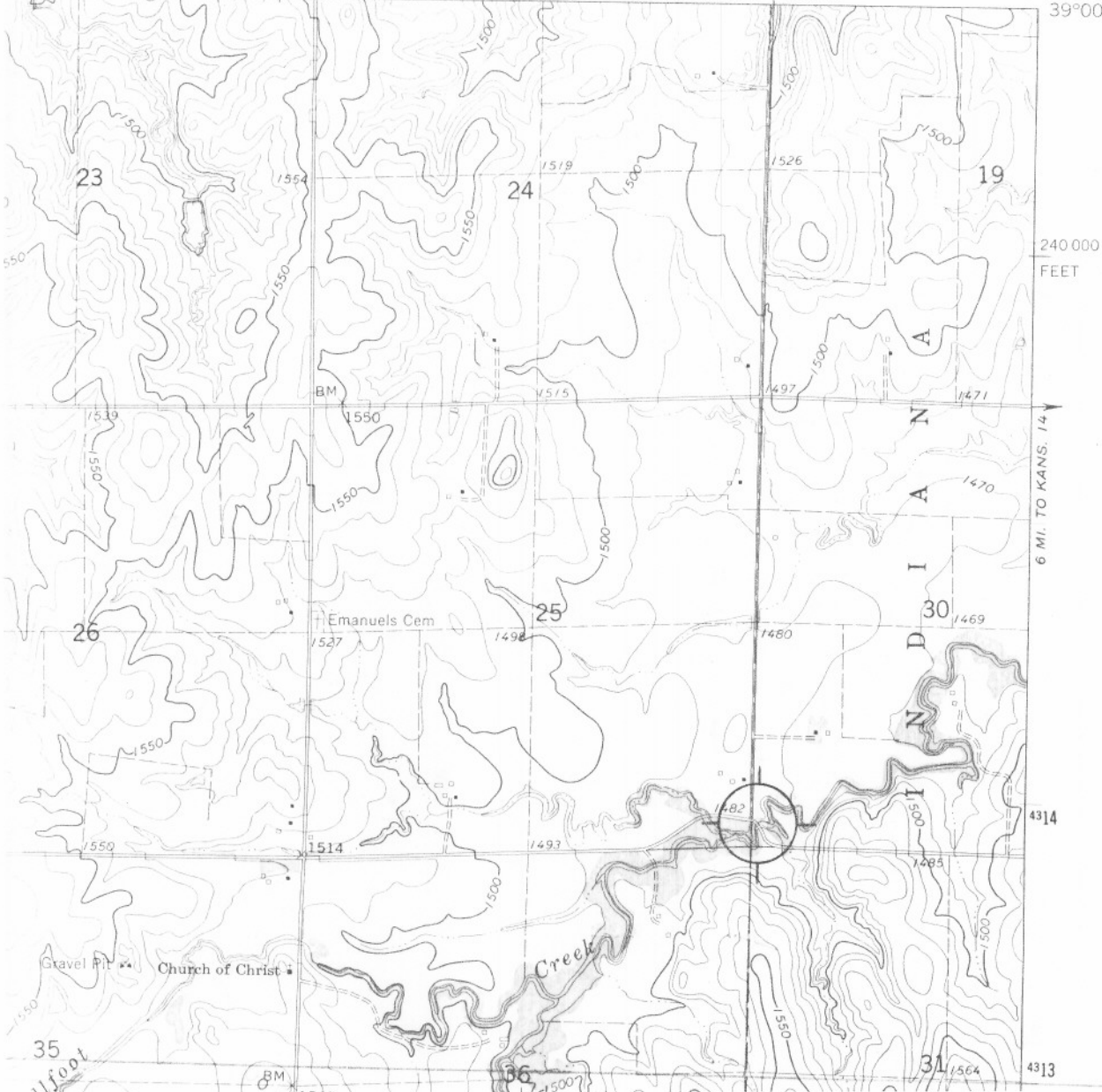
date

Chief of Registration

WILSON NE QUADRANGLE
KANSAS-LINCOLN CO.
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

6362 II SW
(LINCOLN)

17°30" 1920000 FEET VESPER 2.3 MI. 563 R. 9 W. R. 8 W. 98°15' 39°00'



Bullfoot Creek Bridge
Vesper, Kansas

UTM Reference 14/564020/4313900

